

Amendment to the Claims

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1. (Currently Amended) An ostomy coupling fastenable by a deformable locking member, the coupling comprising:
 - a first coupling member comprising a deflectable seal wing extending around a coupling aperture of the first coupling member;
 - a second coupling member comprising a seal seat surface extending around a coupling aperture of the second coupling member, the seal seat surface tapering with a curved taper in a direction towards the first coupling member when the coupling members are in an assembled condition; and
 - a deformable split ring locking member in the form of, or behaving substantially as, a split ring, and being carried on one of the coupling members for releasably fastening the coupling members together, said deformable split ring locking member being deformable so as to expand upon pushing said first and second coupling members together into an assembled condition and thereafter resiliently contract for locking said assembled first and second coupling members together, said assembled members being separable upon expansion of said locking ring;
2. (Currently Amended) An ostomy coupling according to claim 1, wherein the seal seat surface curves through about 90 degrees.
3. (Currently Amended) An ostomy coupling according to claim 2, wherein the seal seat surface curves from a first direction generally parallel to the a plane of the second coupling member to a second direction generally perpendicular to said plane.
4. (Original) An ostomy coupling according to claim 1, wherein the seal seat surface curves generally uniformly over a major portion of the seal seat surface.
5. (Currently Amended) An ostomy coupling member for releasable attachment to a second ostomy coupling part, the ostomy coupling member comprising:

a guide for a locking member;

a deformable split ring locking member movably supported by said guide, the ~~deformable locking member being in the form of, or behaving substantially as, a split ring~~ and comprising having a plurality of locking projections, and the locking member being expandable to move the locking projections outwardly by rotation of the locking member relative to the guide, said locking member being expandable upon pushing said ostomy coupling member and second ostomy coupling part together into an assembled condition and thereafter resiliently contract for locking said assembled ostomy coupling member and ostomy coupling part together, said assembled members being separable upon expansion of said locking member; and

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a seal seat surface extending around an aperture of the coupling member and facing the deformable locking member, the seal seat surface tapering with a curved taper in a direction generally perpendicular to the plane of the locking member, there being a clearance between the seal seat surface and one of the guide and the locking member for receiving the second ostomy coupling part.

6. (Currently Amended) An ostomy coupling fastenable by a deformable locking member, the coupling comprising:

a first coupling member comprising a rib carrying a deflectable seal wing;

a second coupling member comprising first and second walls defining at least one channel portion for receiving at least part of the rib, said channel portion having a channel floor, the first wall defining a seal seat for the deflectable seal wing and tapering in a curved taper towards the second wall such that the width of the channel portion narrows with a curved taper towards the channel floor; and

a deformable split ring locking member ~~in the form of, or behaving substantially as, a split ring,~~ and being carried on one of the coupling members for releasably fastening the coupling members together, said deformable split ring locking member being deformable so as to expand upon pushing said first and second coupling members together into an assembled condition and thereafter resiliently contract for locking said assembled first and second coupling members together, said assembled members being separable upon expansion of said locking member.

7. (Currently Amended) An ostomy coupling according to claim 6, wherein the channel portion is wider at least at one point than it the channel portion is deep.

8. (Original) An ostomy coupling according to claim 6, wherein the channel portion is substantially continuous.

9. (Original) An ostomy coupling according to claim 6, wherein the channel portion and the rib each have a generally annular shape.

10. (Original) An ostomy coupling according to claim 6, comprising a plurality of spaced apart channel portions defining spaced channel segments.
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11. (Original) An ostomy coupling according to claim 1, wherein the deflectable seal wing has a natural shape in which it is curved in the same direction as the seal seat surface, the deflectable seal wing having less curvature than the seal seat surface whereby when the deflectable seal wing bears against the seal seat surface when the coupling members are assembled together, the seal wing is deformed into a more curved shape.

12. (Currently Amended) An ostomy coupling according to claim 6, wherein the deflectable seal wing ~~has a natural shape in which~~ it is curved in the same direction as the seal seat surface, the deflectable seal wing having less curvature than the seal seat surface whereby when the deflectable seal wing bears against the seal seat surface when the coupling members are assembled together, the seal wing is deformed into a more curved shape.

13. (Currently Amended) An ostomy coupling member for releasable attachment to a second ostomy coupling part, the ostomy coupling member comprising:
first and second walls defining at least one channel portion for receiving the second coupling part, the channel portion having a width and a floor, the first wall tapering in a curved taper towards the second wall such that the width of the channel narrows with a curved taper towards the channel floor;
a deformable split ring locking member movably mounted around the second wall, ~~the deformable locking member being in the form of, or behaving substantially as, a split ring and carrying a plurality of locking projections which project through or around the~~

second wall towards the tapered tapering of the first wall, said locking member being expandable upon pushing said ostomy coupling member and second ostomy coupling part together into an assembled condition and thereafter resiliently contract for locking said assembled ostomy coupling member and ostomy coupling part together, said assembled members being separable upon expansion of said locking member;

wherein the locking ring member is expandable by rotation of the locking ring relative to the second wall to cause the locking projections to move outwardly away from the first wall.

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14. (Currently Amended) An ostomy coupling member for releasable attachment to a second ostomy coupling part, the ostomy coupling member comprising:

an apertured flange from which upstands an annular wall having radially inner and outer surfaces, the radially outer surface being formed with an annular clearance,

~~a deformable split ring locking member in the form of, or behaving substantially as, a split ring and received with by the annular clearance, said locking member being expandable upon pushing said ostomy coupling member and second ostomy coupling part together into an assembled condition and thereafter resiliently contract for locking said assembled ostomy coupling member and ostomy coupling part together, said assembled members being separable upon expansion of said locking member;~~

wherein the flange extends radially outwardly of the annular wall, and the deformable locking member has an inclined outer face to form a generally inclined profile shape between the flange and the annular wall.

15. (Original) An ostomy coupling member according to claim 14, wherein the deformable locking member forms a generally smooth profile shape between the flange and the annular wall.

16. (Currently Amended) An ostomy coupling member according to claim 14 having a vertical profile, wherein the profile of the coupling member with the deformable locking member carried thereon has a vertical profile and said profile is generally trapezoidal trapezoid.

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17. (Original) An ostomy coupling member according to claim 14, wherein ostomy coupling member further comprises an annular channel for receiving the second coupling part, the annular channel communicating with the annular clearance through a plurality of apertures.

18. (Currently Amended) An ostomy coupling member for releasable attachment to a second ostomy coupling part, the ostomy coupling member comprising:

a generally radially projecting guide; and

~~a deformable split ring locking member in the form of, or behaving substantially as, a split ring and mounted movably on the guide, said locking ring being expandable upon pushing said ostomy coupling member and second ostomy coupling part together into an assembled condition and thereafter resiliently contract for locking said assembled ostomy coupling member and ostomy coupling part together, said assembled members being separable upon expansion of said locking member;~~

wherein the deformable split ring locking member comprises first and second limbs, each limb comprising respective upper and lower projections with a clearance therebetween, the guide being received within the clearance and the upper and lower portions fitting above and below the guide to retain the locking member thereon.

19. (Original) An ostomy coupling member according to claim 18, wherein each limb of the split ring is bifurcated.

20. (Currently Amended) An ostomy coupling member according to claim 18, wherein the deformable locking ring member comprises a plurality of locking projections, and wherein the coupling member further comprises a plurality of wall segments, the locking projections projecting through spaces between adjacent wall segments.